

SAFETY ON THE LINE

A service of the NASA KSC Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate

September 1999 vol. 99/13

"Who are you gonna to believe, me or you own eyes?"

Groucho Marx

Everyone has probably asked themselves this question:

Should I have a spare outside set of house keys?

Let me give you two examples why you probably should.

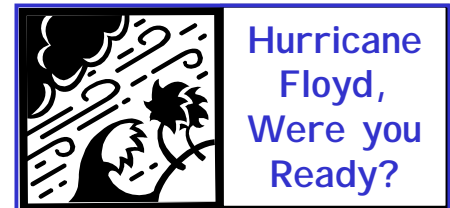
During Hurricane Floyd's brush with Florida, our family was in the Great Smokey Mountains, leaving Friday before the storm arrived here. From North Carolina, there was nothing we could do to protect our property. However, by having an outside spare house key, our neighbors were able to quickly move our second car inside the garage and remove cherished family photo albums and other important items to a more secure location. Just knowing that this was accomplished provided us with considerable peace of mind.

In another example, a coworker's spouse, who was cooking supper at the time, was locked outside the house by their two year old daughter. Since the child was scared, the mother could not get her to unlock the door. The coworker was called at work and had to return home with his set of keys to unlock the door. The fact that the oven burners were turned on was of great concern to the parents (would the daughter touch the burner, knock the hot pot off the stove, etc.?). In this case, harmony was restored to the household. These example brings up a recurring theme:

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED and BE PREPARED, ESPECIALLY DURING HURRICANE SEASON.

Each of us should consider this item: Should I have a spare set of house keys? Depending on your situation, having a outside spare set of house keys IN A SAFE SECURE LOCATION may be justified.

Hurricane Floyd should be a wake up call for most of us, because most of us were not prepared BEFORE it was forecasted to arrive. Next time, obtain your cash, canned goods, drinking water, gas, plywood, and secure outside items, collect important papers, etc., well in advance of our next hurricane. We might not be so lucky next time.



Super Safety Day Question & Answer



QUESTION: How can **SAFETY** be improved for workers against alligators, specifically on the Causeways near construction?

ANSWER: The Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has the responsibility to manage wildlife, including alligators, on KSC. Alligators causing a safety concern to construction workers could be "nuisance alligators," and therefore, falls under jurisdiction of USFWS for removal. It is suggested that construction workers have a cellular phone available for notifying emergency officials at 867-2121, the Joint Communications Control Center, when a nuisance alligator is encountered and USFWS needs to be called out.

(Super Safety Day question answered by the NASA Installation Operations Directorate)



Do you have questions, comments, or an article you would like to submit? Contact Marguerite or Alan at 867-3017/4558, fax number 867-3583, mail code EC-E or e-mail them at "Safety on the Line" found in your global address list. Safety on the Line is also on the Web. Go to the KSC home page, then click on KSC internal page, then find us under NASA/KSC news.